

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 1-52, so that claims 53-70 remain pending for this divisional application as follows:

- 1    53.    (Original) A method of processing laundry which comprises the steps of:
  - 2        (a)    washing a first load of laundry with a detergent in at least one wash vessel to produce a first clean load of laundry and a first wash effluent;
  - 3        (b)    passing the first wash effluent through at least one wash filter, producing a first wash permeate and a first wash retentate; and
  - 4        (c)    rinsing the first clean load of laundry to produce a first rinsed load of laundry and a first rinse effluent.
  
- 1    54.    (Original) The method of Claim 53 which further comprises the steps of:
  - 2        (d)    washing a second load of laundry using in part at least a portion of the first wash permeate in the at least one wash vessel to produce a second clean load of laundry and a second wash effluent;
  - 3        (e)    passing the second wash effluent through the at least one wash filter, producing a second wash permeate and a second wash retentate; and
  - 4        (f)    rinsing the second clean load of laundry to produce a second rinsed load of laundry and a second rinse effluent.
  
- 1    55.    (Original) The method of claim 53 which further comprises the step of:
  - 2        (d)    passing at least a portion of the first rinse effluent through at least one rinse filter to produce a first rinse permeate and a first rinse retentate.
  
- 1    56.    (Original) The method of claim 54 which further comprises the step of:

2           (g) passing at least a portion of the second rinse effluent through the at  
3           least one rinse filter to produce a second rinse permeate and a second  
4           rinse retentate.

1       57. (Original) The method of Claim 54 wherein Step (f) is accomplished in part  
2       by using at least a portion of the first rinse permeate.

1       58. (Original) The method of Claim 53 which further comprises the steps of:  
2           (d) passing the first rinse effluent through at least one rinse filter,  
3           producing a first rinse permeate and a first rinse retentate;  
4           (e) washing a second load of laundry with the detergent and in part at least  
5           a portion of the first wash permeate in the at least one wash vessel to  
6           produce a second clean load of laundry and a second wash effluent;  
7           (f) passing the second wash effluent through the at least one wash filter,  
8           producing a second wash permeate and a second wash retentate;  
9           (g) rinsing the second clean load of laundry with in part at least a portion  
10          of the first rinse permeate to produce a second rinsed load of laundry  
11          and a second rinse effluent; and  
12          (h) passing the second rinse effluent through the at least one rinse filter to  
13          produce a second rinse permeate and a second rinse retentate.

1       59. (Original) The method of Claim 54 wherein between about 30% and about  
2       90% of the washing in Step (d) is accomplished with first wash permeate.

1    60.    (Original) The method of Claim 57 wherein between about 30% and about  
2    90% of the rinsing in Step (f) is accomplished with first rinse permeate.

1    61.    (Original) The method of Claim 58 wherein between about 30% and about  
2    90% of the washing in Step (e) is accomplished with first wash permeate and between  
3    about 30% and about 90% of the rinsing in Step (g) is accomplished with first rinse  
4    permeate.

1    62.    (Original) The method of Claim 55 which further comprises the step of:  
2         (e)    transferring at least a portion of the first rinse retentate to the first wash  
3                  effluent.

1    63.    (Original) The method of Claim 56 which further comprises the step of:  
2         (h)    transferring at least a portion of the second rinse retentate to the second  
3                  wash effluent.

1    64.    (Original) The method of Claim 53 which further comprises the step of  
2    repeating Steps (e)-(h) at least once on additional loads of laundry.

1    65.    (Original) The method of Claim 64 wherein up to about nine loads of laundry  
2    are processed.

1    66.    (Original) The method of Claim 53 wherein the method is steady state.

1    67.    (Original) The method of Claim 64 wherein the method is steady state.

1 68. (Original) The method of Claim 53 which further comprises the steps of:

2 (d) passing a previous rinse effluent through at least one rinse filter,

3 producing a previous rinse permeate and a previous rinse retentate;

4 (e) washing a subsequent load of laundry with the detergent and in part at

5 least a portion of a previous wash permeate in the at least one wash

6 vessel to produce a subsequent clean load of laundry and a subsequent

7 wash effluent;

8 (f) passing the subsequent wash effluent through the at least one wash

9 filter, producing a subsequent wash permeate and a subsequent wash

10 retentate; and

11 (g) rinsing the subsequent clean load of laundry with in part at least a

12 portion of the previous rinse permeate to produce a subsequent rinsed

13 load of laundry and a subsequent rinse effluent;

14 (h) repeating Steps (d)-(g) at least once;

15 wherein the previous rinse effluent is the second rinse effluent prior to Step

16 (h) and the previous wash permeate is the first wash permeate prior to Step

17 (h).

1 69. (Original) The method of Claim 66 wherein up to about nine loads of laundry  
2 are processed.

1 70. (Original) The method of Claim 68 wherein the method is steady state.